

# STATE OF COLORADO

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Jane E. Norton  
Lieutenant Governor

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## **NORTON PRESENTS 2005 COLORADO CARES VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARDS**

*Award Recipients Honored for Volunteerism and Service*

(Denver) – Outstanding volunteers who make a difference in their communities were honored by Lieutenant Governor Jane Norton and Mike Beasley, Executive Director for the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, today at a reception at the Governor's executive residence. Norton awarded the Governor's 2005 Colorado Cares Volunteer Service Awards to twelve individuals and service organizations that were recognized for their tireless efforts to assist others.

"Each of these volunteers set an important example for all Coloradans," said Norton. "Through their work in schools and senior centers, neighborhoods and churches, these volunteers have made a difference in the lives of many of our citizens. It is my pleasure to honor them today, and to recognize their significant contributions to Colorado's communities."

As part of Colorado's Strengthening Families Initiative, Lieutenant Governor Norton has direct supervision of the state's mentoring and community service activities, including Colorado Cares Day. Colorado Cares was created in 1999 by Governor Bill Owens as a day of service in recognition of Colorado's statehood, and as a way to encourage Coloradans to give back to their community.

Since the inception of Colorado Cares Day seven years ago, thousands of Coloradans have heeded the call to service, joining neighborhood and school groups, non-profits and faith-based organizations to support and enhance our communities. This year hundreds of community volunteers participated in 84 different service projects in twenty-six counties across the state.

In 2001, Governor Owens established the Colorado Cares Volunteer Service Awards program as an effort to recognize outstanding volunteers who regularly contribute to our communities. The 2005 award recipients were selected from over forty nominees submitted for consideration. Individuals are nominated by their peers, community leaders, and service organizations in recognition of their community volunteerism and commitment to others.

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## **Colorado Cares Volunteer Service Awards, Page 2**

The following individuals and organizations are recipients of the Governor's 2005 Colorado Cares Volunteer Service Award:

### **2005 Rising Star Award Winner:**

#### **Kadie Huse – Granby, CO (Grand County)**

The "Rising Star" Award recipient this year is Kadie Huse. The "Rising Star Award" is given to a young person in Colorado who is an exemplary volunteer and community member. Kadie has committed countless hours assisting children with disabilities through the National Sports Center for the Disabled (NSCD) Horseback Therapy Program and the NSCD Ski Program through The Special Olympics. She is a counselor for the week long Adam's Camp at the YMCA of the Rockies, President of the Rotary Interact Group, participates in the high school marching & jazz band, and is an outstanding Girl Scout. A tireless volunteer, Kadie Huse is considered "a precious gift" to the Grand County communities and an excellent example of youth in action.

### **2005 Colorado Cares Volunteer Service Award Winners:**

#### **Dr. James Jackson – Centennial, CO (Arapahoe County)**

Dr. James Jackson is the founder of PROJECT C.U.R.E. PROJECT C.U.R.E donates medical supplies overseas to those who would otherwise not have access to necessary life-saving tools. Started in his garage, PROJECT C.U.R.E. has expanded to a 100,000 square foot warehouse packed with life-saving supplies and equipment awaiting shipment to locations including North Korea, Cuba, China, Russia, Vietnam, numerous countries in Africa and South America, and nearly every nation in Central Asia. Because of Dr. Jackson's vision and willingness to serve, thousands of lives have been saved.

#### **Susan Mackenzie - Evergreen, CO (Jefferson County)**

Susan is a true champion for women's causes. Determined to make a difference, she began volunteering with DenverWorks, a program providing employment solutions to economically disadvantaged women. Susan became involved in the program from the very first day. She serves as a mentor for women and youth, she is the co-creator of [Women@Work](#) professional clothing program, and is an active board member for DenverWorks. Susan also volunteers at other Denver metro agencies including Women of Vision (a women's division of World Vision), Joy House/Victory Venture (for battered women and children), and her church. As one of her colleagues said, "Some people volunteer once or twice, but Sue has made a career of blessing people!"

#### **Donna Ramos - Colorado Springs, CO (El Paso County)**

Donna Ramos is the leader for the local volunteer organization within Lockheed Martin. Throughout this past year she has encouraged Lockheed Martin employees to volunteer 25+ hours for Habitat for Humanity, raise money for the American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days Christmas gifts program, donated new baby blankets and supplies for Memorial Hospital, and collected clothing for homeless shelters. She also spends much of her personal time volunteering with her church and working at the Denver Homeless kitchen.

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**Susan “Susie” Masterson - Winter Park, CO (Grand County)**

Susie Masterson donates her time and boundless energy to preserving the trails in Grand County. She organizes an annual “volunteer trail day” which promotes a trail network for locals and visitors. In addition to constructing and performing upkeep on the trails, Susie has also helped to revise the entire Grand County Trails maps and arranged for donations and printing sponsors so that the Headwaters Trails Alliance can promote the trail network free of charge. Susie, as a local business owner and writer, donates a percentage of her sales, around \$1,500, from her local guidebooks to the Headwaters Trails Alliance every year. These funds go a long way towards preserving and improving the local trails. Maintaining Colorado’s natural beauty and developing a community trail network has been the cause Susie has taken to make Colorado an even better place to live.

**Patrick Smith - Pueblo West, CO (Pueblo County)**

Beginning his career as a Firefighter/EMT makes Pat the perfect role model to develop citizenship and disaster preparedness leaders among the nation’s youth. After becoming a high school teacher, Pat started teaching the students emergency preparedness through a program called SERT, School Emergency Response Training. On his own time, Pat developed a comprehensive training program that has become the standard model that is now operating in 20 states. Dedicating countless evenings and weekends to the program, Pat’s efforts and ingenuity resulted in over 240 Colorado kids receiving the training necessary to not only impact, but also save lives. Because of the program, several of Pat’s students have done just that!

**Bernice Frieder – Denver, CO (Denver County)**

Ms. Frider is responsible for bringing The Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPPY) program to Colorado, a program that is bettering the lives of over 7,000 families and children. She was an initial organizer of the First International Year of the Woman, served as a member of the Colorado State Board of Education, and worked with a diverse group of prominent Colorado women to organize and lead a series of “Community Conversations” that promoted understanding and tolerance. She is a dedicated, compassionate volunteer who has made a remarkable impact through her community service.

**‘Long-Term Care’ ‘Ombudsmen Volunteers’ – Denver, CO (Denver County)**

The Ombudsmen Volunteers are truly a group of “unsung heroes” serving residents in long-term care. The seventy-seven volunteers help to serve 17,00 residents in 340 assisted living facilities and nursing homes in the Denver metro area. They serve as friendly visitors, educators, mediators, and complaint investigators. This committed group of volunteers serves as tireless advocates for the residents, looking out for the health needs of societies most vulnerable citizens. Today we salute them for their dedication and hard work.

**High Plains Rotary Club of Eaton – Eaton, CO (Weld County)**

The members of High Plains Rotary Club of Eaton have committed themselves to making daily deliveries of hot meals to the elderly located in the rural areas north of Greeley, including the communities of Ault, Pierce, and Nunn. The High Plains Rotary members have faithfully and cheerfully delivered 10 meals each day and have driven approximately 60 miles per day using their own vehicles. Most of the members work full-time at other jobs and volunteer during their lunch hours. The members also volunteer at the Triangle Cross Ranch, a non-profit Christian

## Colorado Cares Volunteer Service Awards, Page 4

organization that provides long-term care for people over the age of 18 who have developmental disabilities. They help with financial donations towards Christmas Food Baskets for families in their communities. The High Plains Rotary Club of Eaton has given back to the community in a large way.

### **Moses Gonzales – Vail, CO (Eagle County)**

Since 2001, Moses has organized “Make a Difference Day” to collect food for those in need throughout Eagle County. By 2004, 51,000 pounds of food was distributed to Eagle County food pantries due to Moses’ tireless efforts. Moses also organizes the “Shop with a Cop” project with other officers to aid citizens in building positive relationships with members of law enforcement. As a member of the Board of Directors for Freedom Memorial Park in Edwards, Moses developed and coordinated a lasting tribute to emergency service workers and military personnel on the park grounds. According to his colleagues, “when Moses Gonzales isn’t working full time for the Vail Police Department, he’s working fulltime volunteering to make our community a better place to live.”

### **9 News KUSA TV**

For more than fifty years, 9News has been making a difference in Colorado. They support the Race for the Cure, coordinate the 9Health Fair, 9Kids Who Care, 9Teachers Who Care, and 9Cares, Colorado Shares. 9News has set the standard for media participation throughout the community and continues to strive to make Colorado an even better place to live.

*Jane Norton was sworn in as Colorado’s 46<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Governor on January 13, 2003. Her responsibilities include serving as the chair of the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs; acting as point person for the Owens Administration on health insurance reform; strengthening families by promoting adoption, Head Start collaborative efforts, mentoring and volunteerism; and serving as Colorado’s delegate to the Aerospace States Association.*

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